



For Immediate Release
Thursday, January 11, 2007

Contact: Chris Moore
206-624-9449

Historic Preservation Grants Available in February

Washington Trust for Historic Preservation Streamlines Application Process for Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund

For nearly a decade, the Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund has been a source of grant money for local historic preservation organizations and advocates. Named in honor of Valerie Sivinski, a preservationist killed in 2000 while engaged in preservation-related work, nearly \$30,000 has been provided to communities statewide through the Washington Preserves Fund. "The Washington Trust understands that much of the preservation occurring across the state is done at the local level by communities who care for their unique historic places," stated Jennifer Meisner, Executive Director of the Washington Trust. "We are proud that grants from the Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund put a modest but important source of funding in the hands of those communities."

In recent months, the Washington Trust has taken several steps to increase both the accessibility and effectiveness of the Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund. During the spring of 2006, a fundraiser held in Tacoma achieved a much desired goal of the organization: the creation of an endowment for our grant program. As this endowment grows, so will the Washington Trust's ability to financially assist preservation work at the local level.

Additionally, in 2007 the program will transition from a bi-annual grant to an annual one, with a revised application process allowing applicants to complete and submit all materials entirely in a digital format. "We believe these changes will streamline the application process, encouraging more requests for funding through the program," said Kris Bassett, Chair of the Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund. "And by moving to an annual funding cycle, the Washington Trust is able to increase the funding amount available for an individual project." While grants will typically range from \$500-\$1,500, as much as \$2,000 may be awarded.

The next deadline for submitting grant applications is **Thursday, February 15th, 2007.** Applications submitted via email must be received by 5 PM that day. If a hard copy is being sent via US Mail, application materials must be postmarked no later than February 15. All application materials are available on the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation's web site at www.wa-trust.org. For additional questions about the application and for information on donating to the Valerie Sivinski Washington Preserves Fund Endowment, please contact Chris Moore at 206-624-9449 or via email at cmoore@wa-trust.org.

About Washington Trust for Historic Preservation: The Washington Trust for Historic Preservation is a statewide, tax exempt 501(c)3 non profit organization founded in 1976 to safeguard Washington's historic places through advocacy, education, collaboration and stewardship.

###